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Missouri Area Labor Trends

Data Month April 1988

A Monthly Review of Missouri Labor Market Information

Missouri Labor Market Review

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Missouri unemployment continued to fall sharply in April, as the unemployment rate dropped to its lowest level in more than eight years. The April rate of 4.7 percent was the lowest since November 1979 when the rate was 4.6 percent. Seasonal improvement is usual in April, but unemployment has been dropping more sharply than expected.

Employment increased further in April. The gain of 34,300 from March was slightly more than the expected seasonal increase, but the increase from April 1987 was only 17,200. This year, the over-the-year increases have been relatively small. At the same time, decreases in unemployment have been unusually large. For example, April unemployment is 46,400 below the year-earlier level, and the rate is down by 1.7 percentage points. The result has been over-the-year decreases in the labor force. The April civilian labor force of 2,553,700 is 29,200 less than the April 1987 labor force.

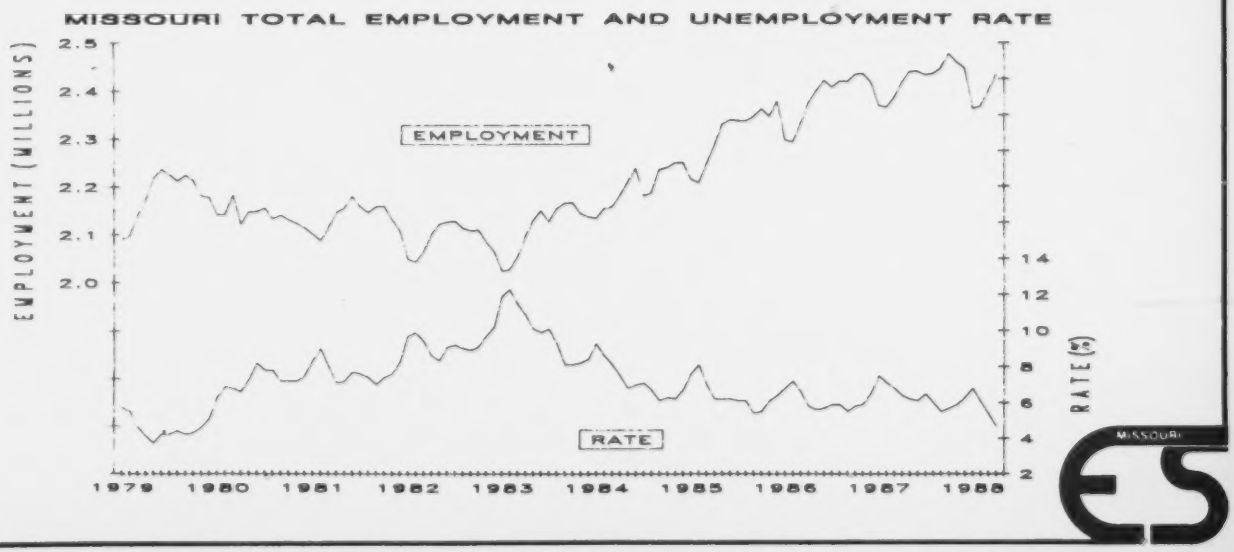
Nonfarm payroll employment continued to climb in April. The net gain of 21,600 from March was concentrated in the nonmanufacturing industries, as a gain of 700 jobs in durable goods manufacturing was offset by a decline of 700 jobs in the nondurable goods industries. Seasonal gains in services (7600), retail trade (6600), and construction (3800) were responsible for most of the April increase. Over the past year, the service industries, retail trade, and state and local government paced the growth in jobs with increases of 13,000, 8300, and 5900, respectively. Manufacturing employment has increased by a full 7200 jobs in the past 12 months, despite a decrease of 1000 jobs in motor vehicles and equipment manufacturing. All other reported durable goods industries held their own or increased during the period. In the nondurable goods industries, growth was concentrated in chemicals (1000 jobs), printing and publishing (700 jobs) and grain mill products (500 jobs).

The factory workweek remained the same in April as in March: 40.5 hours. Average weekly earnings increased $2.84 to $412.70, for hourly average of $10.19. The weekly figure is $17.29 (4.4 percent) above year-earlier earnings.

National Economic and Labor Market Conditions

The nation's economy grew substantially more rapidly in the first quarter of the year than originally estimated. GNP is now estimated to have grown at a 3.9 percent annual rate in the January-March period, rather than the 2.3 percent originally reported. Later data show greater exports and more consumer spending than the preliminary estimates.

Continued on Page 6



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY - A Division of the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Table 1

MISSOURI DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - ESTIMATES

COUNTY/LABOR MARKET AREA	CURRENT MONTH - APR 1988 (PRELIMINARY)				PREVIOUS MONTH - MAR 1988 (REVISED)				ONE YEAR AGO - APR 1987 (BENCHMARKED 1987)			
	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE
U.S. (IN 000'S)	120264	113905	6359	5.3	119957	112867	7090	5.9	118347	111041	7306	6.2
STATEWIDE	2554004	2434281	119723	4.7	2536492	2399996	136496	5.4	2582931	2417093	165838	6.4
ST. LOUIS MSA	1251318	1180375	70943	5.7	1251265	1173154	78111	6.2	1271877	1174577	97300	7.7
KANSAS CITY MSA	834510	799424	35086	4.2	832330	792753	39577	4.8	835901	794066	41835	5.0
SPRINGFIELD MSA	122585	118219	4366	3.6	122498	117713	4785	3.9	121373	115601	5772	4.8
COLUMBIA MSA	65699	64224	1475	2.2	65134	63302	1832	2.8	65701	63633	2068	3.1
JOPLIN MSA	69086	66100	2986	4.3	68772	65548	3224	4.7	68311	64565	3746	5.5
ST. JOSEPH MSA	41137	39016	2121	5.2	40377	38003	2374	5.9	41340	38004	3336	8.1
ADAIR/SCHUYLER LMA	13288	12816	472	3.6	13221	12548	673	5.1	13503	12816	687	5.1
ANDREW	6774	6477	297	4.4	6665	6309	356	5.3	7046	6590	456	6.5
ATCHISON	3161	3080	81	2.6	3076	2979	97	3.2	3244	3119	125	3.9
AUDRAIN	10175	9730	445	4.4	10235	9748	487	4.8	10479	9760	719	6.9
BARRY	11721	11203	518	4.4	11637	11029	608	5.2	11852	11203	649	5.5
BARTON	5590	5430	160	2.9	5567	5380	187	3.4	5270	5077	193	3.7
BATES	6174	5755	419	6.8	6176	5679	497	8.0	6513	5996	517	7.9
BENTON	5073	4777	296	5.8	4930	4497	433	8.8	5420	4998	422	7.8
BOLLINGER	3305	3013	292	8.8	3294	2932	362	11.0	3285	2985	300	9.1
BUTLER	16238	15000	1238	7.6	16180	14733	1447	8.9	16469	14937	1532	9.3
CALDWELL	2976	2800	176	5.9	2931	2749	182	6.2	3154	2966	188	6.0
CALLAWAY	14821	14153	668	4.5	14857	14108	749	5.0	13719	12856	863	6.3
CAMDEN	14596	13953	643	4.4	14053	13106	947	6.7	13935	13145	790	5.7
CAPE GIRARDEAU	36171	34858	1313	3.6	35755	34348	1407	3.9	35115	33625	1490	4.2
CARROLL	4743	4334	409	8.6	4741	4234	507	10.7	4794	4474	320	6.7
CARTER	2077	1914	163	7.8	2021	1810	211	10.4	2146	1892	254	11.8
CEDAR	4450	4233	217	4.9	4332	4058	274	6.3	4828	4570	258	5.3
CHARITON	4018	3886	132	3.3	4093	3926	167	4.1	4208	4003	205	4.9
CLARK	3631	3431	200	5.5	3486	3302	184	5.3	3746	3509	237	6.3
CLINTON	6417	6113	304	4.7	6375	6001	374	5.9	6749	6344	405	6.0
COLE/OSAGE LMA	39513	38094	1419	3.6	39163	37570	1593	4.1	39252	37472	1780	4.5
COOPER	6277	5992	285	4.5	6167	5833	334	5.4	6565	6151	414	6.3
CRAWFORD	8690	8189	501	5.8	8564	7957	607	7.1	8746	8083	663	7.6
DADE	2702	2586	116	4.3	2647	2520	127	4.8	2852	2720	132	4.6
DALLAS	3417	3161	256	7.5	3451	3116	335	9.7	3654	3347	307	8.4
DAVIESS	3817	3641	176	4.6	3659	3463	196	5.4	3725	3547	178	4.8
DEKALB	3658	3499	159	4.3	3563	3388	175	4.9	3806	3533	273	7.2
DENT	6499	6138	361	5.6	6423	6025	398	6.2	6267	5748	519	8.3
DOUGLAS	4762	4443	319	6.7	4709	4298	411	8.7	4818	4499	319	6.6
DUNKLIN	11957	11174	783	6.5	12055	11108	947	7.9	12899	11679	1220	9.5
GASCONADE	7292	6969	323	4.4	7198	6783	415	5.8	7178	6730	448	6.2
GENTRY	2606	2500	106	4.1	2767	2623	144	5.2	2894	2650	244	8.4
GRUNDY	5195	4981	214	4.1	5248	4903	345	6.6	5083	4788	295	5.8
HARRISON	4188	4021	167	4.0	4139	3891	248	6.0	4450	4197	253	5.7
HENRY	7295	6838	457	6.3	7226	6663	563	7.8	8055	7302	753	9.3
HICKORY	2753	2601	152	5.5	2630	2430	200	7.6	2621	2453	168	6.4
HOLT	2233	2137	96	4.3	2212	2088	124	5.6	2349	2213	136	5.8
HOWARD	4668	4463	205	4.4	4548	4338	210	4.6	4801	4540	261	5.4
HOWELL	13225	12538	687	5.2	13022	12238	784	6.0	12999	12021	978	7.5
IRON	2327	2048	279	12.0	2304	2000	304	13.2	2653	2277	376	14.2
JOHNSON	19070	18509	561	2.9	18904	18134	770	4.1	18237	17545	692	3.8
KNOX	1773	1695	78	4.4	1845	1694	151	8.2	1940	1821	119	6.1
LACLEDE	13191	12635	556	4.2	13035	12347	688	5.3	12913	12164	749	5.8
LAWRENCE	12833	12277	556	4.3	13105	12342	763	5.8	13003	11957	1046	8.0
LEWIS	4667	4405	262	5.6	4613	4305	308	6.7	4944	4520	424	8.6

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	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE
LINCOLN	11830	11101	729	6.2	11749	10762	987	8.4	11870	10570	1300	11.0
LINN	6675	6437	238	3.6	6570	6220	350	5.3	6752	6362	390	5.8
LIVINGSTON	6452	6172	280	4.3	6486	6148	338	5.2	6500	6076	424	6.5
MACON	7721	7363	358	4.6	7564	7129	435	5.8	8092	7544	548	6.8
MADISON	4814	4528	286	5.9	4653	4336	317	6.8	4540	4184	356	7.8
MARIES	3508	3274	234	6.7	3395	3133	262	7.7	4068	3736	332	8.2
MARION/RALLS LMA	17446	16660	786	4.5	17232	16254	978	5.7	17728	16291	1437	8.1
MCDONALD	7647	7360	287	3.8	7295	6991	304	4.2	7313	6884	429	5.9
MERCER	1515	1433	82	5.4	1509	1396	113	7.5	1532	1454	78	5.1
MILLER	8388	7792	596	7.1	8300	7395	905	10.9	9159	8186	973	10.6
MISSISSIPPI	6354	5926	428	6.7	6191	5714	477	7.7	6490	5997	493	7.6
MONITEAU	6070	5829	241	4.0	5811	5494	317	5.5	5946	5619	327	5.5
MONROE	4743	4519	224	4.7	4795	4509	286	6.0	4821	4535	286	5.9
MONTGOMERY	4890	4631	259	5.3	4865	4522	343	7.1	4924	4577	347	7.0
MORGAN	7290	6953	337	4.6	6792	6340	452	6.7	7236	6705	531	7.3
NEW MADRID	8993	8422	571	6.3	8914	8245	669	7.5	9418	8747	671	7.1
NODAWAY	10234	10041	193	1.9	10235	9937	298	2.9	10335	9979	356	3.4
OREGON	3830	3577	253	6.6	3825	3553	272	7.1	3685	3376	309	8.4
OZARK	3354	3067	287	8.6	3218	2913	305	9.5	3496	3232	264	7.6
PEMISCOT	8419	7868	551	6.5	8392	7791	601	7.2	8728	7979	749	8.6
PERRY	8076	7534	542	6.7	7697	7264	433	5.6	7931	7497	434	5.5
PETTIS	17046	16182	864	5.1	16945	15963	982	5.8	17515	16389	1126	6.4
PHELPS	16853	16195	658	3.9	16798	16020	778	4.6	16640	15757	883	5.3
PIKE	6849	6421	428	6.2	6887	6338	549	8.0	7085	6507	578	8.2
POLK	9295	8958	337	3.6	9378	8930	448	4.8	9113	8630	483	5.3
PULASKI	12810	12191	619	4.8	12475	11790	685	5.5	12269	11557	712	5.8
PUTNAM	2085	1979	106	5.1	2082	1962	120	5.8	2201	2074	127	5.8
RANDOLPH	11559	10960	599	5.2	11617	10909	708	6.1	11723	11042	681	5.8
REYNOLDS	1713	1482	231	13.5	1664	1394	270	16.2	1902	1529	373	19.6
RIPLEY	4036	3737	299	7.4	3911	3548	363	9.3	4070	3631	439	10.8
SALINE	11336	10942	394	3.5	11240	10784	456	4.1	11537	10986	551	4.8
SCOTLAND	2212	2128	84	3.8	2241	2082	159	7.1	2250	2136	114	5.1
SCOTT	17655	16633	1022	5.8	17777	16630	1147	6.5	17588	16318	1270	7.2
SHANNON	2778	2536	242	8.7	2702	2392	310	11.5	3231	2875	356	11.0
SHELBY	3524	3443	81	2.3	3572	3472	100	2.8	3441	3317	124	3.6
ST. CLAIR	3085	2922	163	5.3	3142	2908	234	7.4	3296	3084	212	6.4
ST. FRANCOIS	20884	19468	1416	6.8	20833	19168	1665	8.0	19937	18140	1797	9.0
STE. GENEVIEVE	6750	6365	385	5.7	6578	6171	407	6.2	6912	6464	448	6.5
STODDARD	11804	11028	776	6.6	11826	10769	1057	8.9	12292	11156	1136	9.2
STONE	8595	7897	698	8.1	7497	6382	1115	14.9	8368	7498	870	10.4
SULLIVAN	3354	3252	102	3.0	3299	3147	152	4.6	3351	3197	154	4.6
TANEY	14440	13294	1146	7.9	12705	10894	1811	14.3	14404	13146	1258	8.7
TEXAS	9060	8485	575	6.3	8761	8154	607	6.9	9277	8557	720	7.8
VERNON	9272	8956	316	3.4	9136	8748	388	4.2	9088	8661	427	4.7
WARREN	10594	10015	579	5.5	10233	9517	716	7.0	10214	9322	892	8.7
WASHINGTON	5950	5154	796	13.4	5898	4965	933	15.8	6252	5011	1241	19.8
WAYNE	4736	4347	389	8.2	4518	4125	393	8.7	4784	4347	437	9.1
WEBSTER	9657	8762	895	9.3	9174	8490	684	7.5	9088	8261	827	9.1
WORTH	1143	1093	50	4.4	1139	1060	79	6.9	1158	1082	76	6.6
WRIGHT	6926	6527	399	5.8	6597	6238	359	5.4	6920	6440	480	6.9

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment, Hours and Earnings
Missouri (Statewide)
April, 1988

Industry Title	All Employees (In Thousands)			Production Workers								
				Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago
Total Non-Agri. Employment	2216.6	2195.0	2178.8									
Total Manufacturing	420.9	420.9	413.7	412.70	409.86	395.41	40.5	40.5	39.9	10.19	10.12	9.91
Durable Goods	238.1	237.4	233.0	459.64	454.78	437.63	41.9	41.8	40.9	10.97	10.88	10.70
Lumber & Wood Products	11.3	11.0	10.6	249.36	234.24	244.74	38.6	36.6	38.3	6.46	6.40	6.39
Furniture & Fixtures	11.7	11.7	11.1	306.86	317.82	334.84	39.8	41.6	44.0	7.71	7.64	7.61
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	11.1	11.0	10.8	490.85	465.13	528.99	43.4	42.4	45.8	11.31	10.97	11.55
Cement, Hydraulic	0.9	0.9	0.9	554.32	506.97	567.55	41.0	38.7	38.9	13.52	13.10	14.59
Structural Clay Prod.	1.9	1.9	1.8	478.12	486.87	499.25	40.9	42.3	40.1	11.69	11.51	12.45
Primary Metal Industries	12.6	12.8	12.3	449.15	453.29	453.29	40.5	42.8	40.8	11.09	11.18	11.11
Iron & Steel Foundries	1.7	1.6	1.4	457.86	459.38	405.46	44.8	44.6	41.5	10.22	10.30	9.77
Nonferrous Foundries	3.5	3.5	3.3	335.74	349.24	345.20	41.5	43.6	42.2	8.09	8.01	8.18
Fabricated Metal Products	28.0	27.7	27.3	418.61	417.77	432.79	40.8	40.6	42.1	10.26	10.29	10.28
Structural Metal Prod.	10.9	10.6	10.6	415.11	424.69	415.49	42.1	41.8	41.8	9.86	10.16	9.94
Machinery Exc. Electrical	30.4	30.1	29.8	441.18	435.11	398.00	43.0	42.7	39.8	10.26	10.19	10.00
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	46.3	46.7	45.7	410.52	410.44	379.06	41.3	41.5	39.2	9.94	9.89	9.67
Transportation Equipment	67.8	67.7	67.3	648.51	631.31	592.62	43.7	43.3	42.0	14.84	14.58	14.11
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	27.7	27.7	28.7	710.26	676.19	624.32	45.5	44.9	42.5	15.61	15.06	14.69
Instruments & Related Prod.	11.7	11.6	11.2	328.84	326.03	299.63	40.9	40.5	37.5	8.04	8.05	7.99
Misc. Mfg. Inds.	7.2	7.1	6.9	278.92	276.17	251.25	41.2	40.2	38.3	6.77	6.87	6.56
Nondurable Goods	182.8	183.5	180.7	352.17	351.92	341.22	38.7	38.8	38.6	9.10	9.07	8.84
Food & Kindred Products	44.6	44.8	45.1	417.68	416.31	413.51	40.2	39.8	40.7	10.39	10.46	10.16
Meat Products & Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	13.4	13.4	13.1	305.25	298.96	296.13	40.7	40.4	40.4	7.50	7.40	7.33
Dairy Products	5.4	5.4	5.7	442.09	445.22	450.83	39.9	39.4	43.1	11.08	11.30	10.46
Grain Mill Products	7.7	7.7	7.2	429.73	428.81	376.79	41.4	40.8	36.3	10.38	10.51	10.38
Bakery Products	4.6	4.8	5.2	396.12	397.34	415.27	34.9	35.7	40.2	11.35	11.13	10.33
Beverages	9.4	9.4	9.6	737.26	741.20	743.38	40.8	40.0	43.6	18.07	18.53	17.05

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Industry Title	All Employees (In Thousands)			Production Workers								
				Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago
Other Food & Kindred Prods.	4.1	4.2	4.3	373.45	366.82	392.59	38.5	37.7	43.0	9.70	9.73	9.13
Textile & Apparel	24.2	24.6	24.3	211.68	204.63	199.76	36.0	35.1	34.5	5.88	5.83	5.79
Paper & Allied Products	13.3	13.2	13.4	401.29	398.82	395.73	41.2	41.5	41.7	9.74	9.61	9.49
Paperboard Cont. & Boxes	6.3	6.2	6.4	416.93	400.34	409.88	42.5	41.4	43.1	9.81	9.67	9.51
Printing & Publishing	41.6	41.5	40.9	382.77	388.49	381.15	37.6	38.2	37.7	10.18	10.17	10.11
Commercial Printing	14.1	14.0	13.9	451.53	457.56	451.58	40.1	40.6	40.5	11.26	11.27	11.15
Chemicals & Allied	28.7	28.5	27.7	483.21	490.79	461.14	41.8	42.2	41.1	11.56	11.63	11.22
Leather & Leather Products	16.2	16.7	15.7	191.62	205.67	189.46	32.7	35.4	34.7	5.86	5.81	5.46
Footwear Exc. Rubber	12.5	12.9	12.4	176.55	190.85	177.84	32.1	34.7	34.2	5.50	5.50	5.20
Total Nonmanufacturing	1795.7	1774.1	1765.1									
Mining	5.5	5.4	5.4									
Construction	97.9	94.1	96.7									
Transportation & Public Util.	143.2	142.2	142.2									
Railroad Transportation	9.6	9.6	9.8									
Transportation (Exc. R.R.)	77.7	76.7	77.1									
Communications	55.9	55.9	55.3									
Wholesale & Retail Trade	542.9	535.1	532.8									
Wholesale Trade	137.4	136.2	135.6									
Retail Trade	405.5	398.9	397.2									
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	135.4	134.4	134.6									
Services	514.3	506.7	501.3									
Government	356.5	356.2	352.1									
Federal Government	71.2	71.0	72.7									
State & Local Government	0	0	0									

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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National employment continued to grow in April, while the unemployment rate decreased by two-tenths of a point to 5.4 percent, seasonally adjusted. (The not-seasonally-adjusted rate, which is more comparable to the published Missouri rate, was 5.3 percent.) The national rate has fallen six-tenths of a point in the pas six months and is now at its lowest level since mid-1974.

Payroll employment grew by about 175,000 jobs in April. This represented slower growth than in the first three months of the year, but employment increased in a number of manufacturing industries which have experienced growing exports in recent months.

Total civilian employment jumped sharply, increasing by 600,000 from March. The previous month has experienced an unusual drop of 300,000, so the February-April growth appears more consistent with payroll employment trends. Over the long run, these two measures of employment tend to show similar trends. During the past year, payroll employment is estimated to have increased by 3.2 million jobs, while total civilian employment grew by 2.9 million.

Outlook

The government's index of leading economic indicators increased for the second month in March. The index was up 0.8 percent in March, following the revised February increase of 1.3 percent. The February increase represented an upward revision of the preliminary estimate, while the amount of the January decline has been revised downward. The index seems to be pointing toward strong growth in upcoming months, but the rate of growth could be less than the rapid rate of the first quarter.

Although most of the seasonal improvement is now past, Missouri employment usually increases a bit more and unemployment edges down in Mary. A seasonal increase in unemployment occurs in June, as many students and other summer jobseekers enter the labor force.

Table 3. Selected Economic Statistics Related To Manpower Developments Missouri — April, 1988

Item	Current Mo. (Preliminary)	1 Mo. Ago (Revised)	1Yr. Ago (Revised)	Net Change To Current Month From:	
				1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Civilian Labor Force (No. of Workers)	2,553,700	2,536,500	2,582,900	17,200	-29,200
Total Employment	2,434,300	2,400,000	2,417,100	34,300	17,200
Total Unemployment	119,400	136,500	165,800	-17,100	-46,400
Unemployment Rate (% of CLF)	4.7	5.4	6.4	-0.7	-1.7
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment Except Domestics (No. of Jobs)	2,216,600	2,195,000	2,178,800	21,600	37,800
Manufacturing	420,900	420,900	413,700	0	7,200
Durable Goods	238,100	237,400	233,000	700	5,100
Nondurable Goods	182,800	183,500	180,700	-700	2,100
Nonmanufacturing	1,795,700	1,774,100	1,765,100	21,600	30,600
State Initial Claims (Wkly Avg.)	6,188	8,848	7,589	-660	-1,401
State Insured Unemployment (Wkly Avg.)	41,392	55,917	54,409	-14,525	-13,017
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.0	2.3	2.6	-0.3	-0.6
Exhaustions (State U.I.)	3,236	3,729	4,252	-493	-1,016
Amount of Benefits Paid	$18,131,849	$26,237,276	$22,880,122	-$8,105,427	-$4,748,273
State U.I.	17,805,142	25,963,076	22,533,347	-8,057,934	-4,728,205
UCFE	174,629	211,639	157,154	-37,010	17,475
UCX	152,078	162,561	189,621	-10,483	-37,543

Prepared in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Kansas City Labor Market Review

The Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Jackson, Cass, Clay, Lafayette, Platte and Ray counties in Missouri and Johnson, Wyandotte, Leavenworth and Miami counties in Kansas. The 1980 population for the MSA has been published at 1,433,458 persons by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

April, 1988

Franciena King, Analyst

The Kansas City Metropolitan Area's unemployment rate continued to fall for the fourth consecutive month of 1988. The April 1988 rate reached a nineteen month low at 4.2 percent of the civilian labor force. The April 1988 rate fell below the previous month's rate by six tenths of a percentage point and below April 1987 rate by eight tenths of a point. A significant reduction in the number of claims filed contributed to the number of jobless workers in the Area declining by 4,500. It appears that seasonal employment increases in Services, Retail Trade and Construction payroll jobs coupled with seasonal hiring in non-covered employment categories boosted the number of employed up to 799,400, for a net gain of 6,600 over-the-month, in comparison with the year ago levels, the labor force lost nearly 1,400 workers over-the-year. Unlike the over-the-month performance, when the increase in payroll jobs for exceeded the reduction in the number of jobless workers, the over-the-year increases in payroll jobs fell below reductions in the number of unemployed. Apparently a substantial number of unemployed workers may have withdrawn from the labor force.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment was 739,600 in April 1988, up by 5,300 jobs from the March 1988 total of 734,300. Over-the-month the Area's industries showed moderate to significant improvement. Growth in the number of jobs in the Area was most evident in the Nonmanufacturing sector, although overall changes in the Manufacturing sector were better than expected. Despite reports of substantial layoffs in several industries in the Manufacturing sector, at this time the effect of these losses are being felt moderately. The only significant loss that occurred over-the-month was the loss of 300 jobs in the Primary Metals industries. Other losses within Manufacturing sector were scattered widely among the industries. Moreover small gains in several of these industries offset the losses for a net increase of 100 jobs over-the-month in the Manufacturing sector. Overall total Manufacturing was fairly steady at 111,500.

Employment in the Nonmanufacturing continued to top previous month totals. Almost every industry within the sector showed moderate to large increases over-the-month. Boosted by employment increases in personnel supply and agricultural services, the Services industry topped the list of big job gains with 1,800 new jobs over-the-month. Retail Trade, prompted by large increases in jobs in eating and drinking establishments, added 1,000 more jobs over-the-month. Despite some small losses of jobs in building construction, overall Construction employment increased over the period by 800 jobs. Among the remaining industries, trucking jobs added 400 jobs to Transportation, Communications and Utilities and the durable goods component of Wholesale Trade accounted for a gain of 400 jobs in Wholesale Trade. Together federal government finance and municipal government accounted for 700 new jobs created in Total Government. Overall, 5,100 more jobs were added to the Nonmanufacturing sector.

Wage and salary employment was 739,100 in April 1988, up by 3,100 from the April 1987 total of 735,900. Durable Goods Manufacturing was 58,600, down by 2,900 from the April 1987 total of 61,500, and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing was 52,900, up by 600 from the year ago total of 52,300. Within the Durable Goods Manufacturing, several industries fell below the year ago levels. Transportation Equipment showed the largest number of losses with 2,000 fewer jobs in April 1988 compared to April 1987. A modest over-the-month loss in communications equipment held in Electrical and Electronic Equipment Manufacturing total below the April 1987 total by 300. Similarly moderate over-the-month losses in the steel industry held the Primary Metal industry loss to 400 jobs over the 12-month period.

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing, unlike the Durable Goods Manufacturing group, showed moderate improvement over the year. Continued strength in the drugs and pharmaceutical industry accounted for the 400 jobs gained in the Chemicals industry. These increases combined with scattered smaller increases in Printing and Publishing and Paper contributed to the gain of 600 new jobs in the sector.

Nonmanufacturing employment grew by 5,900 over the 12-month period. The most notable increase occurred in the Services industry, which gained 3,900 or two thrids of the over-all total number of jobs gained over-the-period. Most of these jobs were gained in the business service industry, although health, agriculture, and legal services also posted substantial gains. Retail Trade with 2,100 new jobs also gained a significant number of jobs, mainly in groceries and miscellaneous stores and non-store retail establishments. The final big gainer over-the-year was Federal Government which added 1,200 new jobs, scattered across several areas. Despite these substantial increases posted in these three industries, many industries within the Nonmanufacturing sector sustained losses over the year. Despite some growth in telephone and utilities, the losses in air transportation and trucking were more than sufficient to offset these gains for a total loss of 700 jobs in Transportation, Communication and Utilities over the period. Combined Wholesale Trade, State and Local Government and Construction also posted another 700 jobs lost over the year.

Total unemployment on a place-of-residence basis was 35,100 in April 1988 for 4.2 percent of the labor force

Table 1. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment
(Place of Work)
(Benchmark — March 1987)

Area and State: Kansas City, Missouri-Kansas **Month and Year of Current:** April, 1988

Item	Number of Jobs			Net Change To Current Month From:	
	Current Mo.	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salaried Employment	739,500	734,300	735,900	+5,200	+3,600
Total Manufacturing	111,500	111,400	113,800	+100	-2,300
Durable Goods	58,600	58,700	61,500	-100	-2,900
Lumber & Furniture	3,400	3,400	3,400	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	3,200	3,100	3,300	+100	-100
Primary Metal Industries	2,900	3,200	3,300	-300	-400
Fabricated Metal Products	8,400	8,300	8,600	+100	-200
Machinery Except Electrical	8,000	7,900	8,000	+100	0
Electrical Equipment & Supplies	17,500	17,700	17,800	-200	-300
Transportation Equipment	11,400	11,400	13,400	0	-2,000
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	(11,100)	(11,100)	(13,000)	(0)	(-1,900)
Other Durable Goods	0	0	0	0	0
Nondurable Goods	52,900	52,700	52,300	+200	+600
Food & Kindred Products	8,500	8,400	8,500	+100	0
Apparel & Other Textile Products	2,700	2,800	2,800	-100	0
Paper & Allied Products	5,800	5,800	5,600	0	+200
Printing & Publishing	20,800	20,700	20,600	+100	+200
Chemicals & Allied Products	10,000	9,900	9,600	+100	+400
Petroleum & Coal Products	600	600	600	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0	0	0	0	0
Total Nonmanufacturing	628,000	622,900	622,100	+5,100	+5,900
Mining & Quarrying	500	500	500	0	0
Construction	36,100	35,300	36,300	+800	-200
Transportation, Comm. & Utilities	55,500	55,100	56,200	+400	-700
Wholesale & Retail Trade	191,000	189,600	189,200	+1,400	+1,800
Wholesale Trade	(58,300)	(57,900)	(58,600)	(+400)	(-300)
Retail Trade	(132,700)	(131,700)	(130,600)	(+1,000)	(+2,100)
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	58,200	58,200	58,100	0	100
Services	172,300	170,500	168,400	+1,800	+3,900
Government	114,400	113,700	113,400	+700	+1,000
Federal Government	(31,900)	(31,600)	(30,700)	(+300)	(+1,200)
State & Local Government	(82,500)	(82,100)	(82,700)	(+400)	(-200)
In Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

compared to 39,600 in March 1988 for 4.8 percent of the labor force and 41,800 in April 1987 for 5.0 percent of the labor force.

Employment and Unemployment Forecast

The Area's unemployment rate is expected to change very little in May 1988. Anticipated layoffs in the Manufacturing sector may cause a slight increase in the number of jobless workers in the Area. Seasonal increases in the number of jobs in the Services, Construction and Retail Trade industries however are expected to offset these losses in Manufacturing. Unemployment in May 1988 is expected to be 4.3 percent of the labor force compared to 4.2 percent in April 1988 and 5.6 percent in May 1987.

The month of June 1988 will show a substantial expansion in the civilian labor force as students and other summer job seekers enter the labor force. The number of jobs available in the seasonal components of Services, Retail Trade, Construction and Transportation, Communications and Utilities will also expand. The number of jobless workers will rise temporarily as the labor market adjusts to this expansion. Unemployment in June 1988 will be 4.5 percent of the labor force compared to 5.8 percent in June 1987.

Table 2. Production Workers Average Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Area and State: Kansas City, Missouri-Kansas **Month and Year of Current Data: April, 1988**

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Manufacturing	$470.02	$474.10	$448.48	40.8	40.8	39.9	$11.52	$11.62	$11.24
Durable Goods	514.58	523.33	466.85	41.7	41.9	39.1	12.34	12.49	11.94
Lumber & Furniture	317.60	275.19	311.98	37.9	34.1	28.9	8.38	8.07	8.02
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	475.78	482.76	492.10	38.4	40.5	36.1	12.39	12.92	13.64
Primary Metal Industries	426.99	491.25	438.94	33.1	38.2	34.4	12.90	12.86	12.76
Fabricated Metal Products	406.20	408.22	411.76	40.4	40.1	41.3	10.05	10.18	9.97
Machinery Exc. Electrical	449.83	445.74	433.29	43.8	43.7	43.9	10.27	10.20	9.87
Electrical Equip. & Supplies	514.16	534.24	464.12	41.7	42.0	39.1	12.33	12.72	11.87
Transportation Equipment	749.39	757.99	582.88	45.5	45.8	37.8	16.47	16.55	15.42
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	(762.73)	(770.96)	(590.01)	(45.7)	(46.0)	(37.7)	(16.69)	(16.76)	(15.65)
Nondurable Goods	412.63	413.17	420.86	39.6	39.5	40.9	10.42	10.46	10.29
Food & Kindred Products	434.56	427.58	453.70	40.2	39.3	41.7	10.81	10.88	10.88
Apparel & Other Textile Prod.	211.97	201.28	197.64	34.3	34.0	33.9	6.18	5.92	5.83
Paper & Allied Products	409.22	403.94	393.18	40.8	41.6	39.2	10.03	9.71	10.03
Printing & Publishing	414.22	420.55	440.92	39.3	39.6	40.6	10.54	10.62	10.86
Chemicals & Allied Products	541.74	557.57	545.66	39.2	39.1	44.8	13.82	14.26	12.18
Petroleum & Coal Products	434.77	406.66	433.20	40.9	38.4	37.9	10.63	10.59	11.43

* This series excludes industry 2771.

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

St. Louis Labor Market Review

The St. Louis Area includes the City of St. Louis, and St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson and Franklin Counties in Missouri; and Clinton, Madison, Monroe, St. Clair and Jersey Counties in Illinois. The 1980 population for the Area was stated as 2,376,998 persons by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

April, 1988

Russell Signorino, Analyst

Area Labor Force Developments

The St. Louis MSA unemployment rate showed its third consecutive monthly decline, falling from 6.2% in March to 5.7% in April. Total unemployment declined by 7,200, and total employment increased by 7,200. The large decline in the civilian labor force over the last year appears to indicate that the number of seasonal job seekers is less than usual this spring. Manufacturing employment leveled off after three straight monthly increases, but nonmanufacturing industries continued to show strong employment gains. For the first four months of 1988, the area's unemployment rate has averaged 6.5%. Over the last 12 months, unemployment has fallen by 26,400, while employment has increased by 5,800. The unemployment rate in April 1987 was 7.7%. There were less than 50 people involved in labor-management disputes in March and April of 1988 and 100 in April 1987.

Manufacturing

Total manufacturing employment was up by 100 over the month. Employment gains were concentrated in construction-related industries - lumber, stone and fabricated metal products - and in aircraft manufacturing. There were small losses in electrical equipment manufacturing, food and beverages and leather goods. Over the year, manufacturing employment increased by 4,400. All durable goods manufacturing industries gained in employment, with the largest increases in aircraft manufacturing (up by 1,600), fabricated metal products (up by 800 and machinery (up by 600). Employment in nondurable goods manufacturing was down slightly; losses were concentrated in food and beverages (down by 300) and textiles and apparel (down by 200).

Nonmanufacturing

Nonmanufacturing employment increased by 8,800 between March and April. As usual for this time of the year, employment gains were concentrated in services, retail trade and construction. Hotels and recreational services led the way as employment in the services industry increased by 3,900. In retail trade (up by 3,500), restaurants and home improvement stores were seasonally higher. Spring weather contributed to an employment increase of 1,700 in construction. The only major employment decrease was in state and local government (down by 900); it was caused by the layoff of temporary election workers. Over the year, nonmanufacturing employment increased by 14,700. Gains were concentrated in services (up by 9,800), trade (up by 2,700), state and local government (up by 2,300) and transportation (up by 1,600). The federal government (down by 1,100) had the only major employment loss over the year.

Unemployment Rate Outlook

The unemployment rate in May, 1988 is expected to be 5.5%.

Unemployment and Manpower Resources

The industry distribution of Missouri resident claimants is:

Industry	Jan. '88	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Mining	43	46	37	20
Construction	4434	5531	3991	2476
Manufacturing	7615	6019	4843	4260
Public Utilities	551	646	560	468
Wholesale & Retail Tr.	2275	2624	2535	2245
Finance	484	553	587	543
Services	3793	5025	5158	4740
All Other	369	401	318	203
TOTAL	19564	20845	18029	14955

The occupational distribution of the intrastate Missouri resident claimant is:

Occupation	Jan. '88	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Prof., Tech. & Mgr.	912	1145	1206	1107
Clerical	1242	1553	1633	1537
Sales	324	404	392	308
Farm, Fish & Forest	146	180	139	67
Processing	154	186	160	148
Machine Trades	811	903	872	694
Bench Work	643	725	689	595
Structural Work	3081	1614	2475	1819
Misc. Work	1321	1614	1447	1140
Service	1211	1399	1402	1146
INA	9719	9779	7614	6394
TOTAL	19564	20845	18029	14955

Available Job Oppportunties

The occupations percentage distribution of the openings received and filled during fiscal year 1988 by the Missouri State Employment Service is as follows:

Occupational Group	Openings Received Percent	Openings Filled Percent
Professional, Technical & Managerial	5.3	1.7
Clerical	17.8	12.2
Sales	17.2	21.6
Processing	2.1	3.0
Machine Trades	5.1	5.2
Bench Work	5.8	7.4
Structural Work	7.2	8.0
Motor Freight & Trans.	4.1	3.8
Packaging & Material Handling	8.7	11.5
Domestic	0.7	0.3
Other Services	22.5	21.0
Other Occupations	3.5	4.3

Table 1. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment
(Place of Work)

Area and State: St. Louis, Mo.-Ill. Met. Area **Month and Year of Current:** April, 1988

Item	Number of Jobs			Net Change To Current Month From:	
	Current Mo.	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary, Total	1,134,900	1,126,000	1,125,800	+8,900	+19,100
Percent Change				+(0.8)	+(1.7)
Manufacturing	218,900	218,800	214,500	+100	+4,400
Durable Goods	137,500	137,200	132,800	+300	+4,700
Lumber & Furniture	4,800	4,700	4,600	+100	+200
Stone, Clay & Glass	3,400	3,300	3,300	+100	+100
Primary Metal Industries	14,200	14,200	13,700	0	+500
Fabricated Metal Products	16,800	16,700	16,000	+100	+800
Machinery, Except Electrical	18,000	18,000	17,400	0	+600
Electrical & Electronic Equip.	14,500	14,600	14,200	-100	+300
Transportation Equipment	53,300	53,200	51,500	+100	+1,800
Motor Vehicles	16,000	16,100	15,800	-100	+200
Aircraft & Parts	31,400	31,200	29,800	+200	+1,600
Instruments & Misc. Mfg.	12,500	12,500	12,100	0	+400
Nondurable Goods	81,400	81,600	81,700	-200	-300
Food & Kindred Products	21,500	21,700	21,800	-200	-300
Meat Products	800	800	700	0	+100
Beverages	8,500	8,600	8,700	-100	-200
Textiles & Apparel	5,900	5,900	6,100	0	-200
Paper & Paper Products	5,800	5,700	5,900	+100	-100
Printing & Publishing	16,800	16,800	16,800	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	18,200	18,200	18,200	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	2,800	2,800	2,900	0	-100
Leather & Leather Products	4,700	4,800	4,400	-100	+300
Other Nondurable Goods	5,700	5,700	5,600	0	+100
Nonmanufacturing	916,000	907,200	901,300	+8,800	+14,700
Mining	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
Construction	55,200	53,500	55,400	+1,700	-200
Transportation & Public Utilities	74,200	74,000	72,600	+200	+1,600
Railroads	5,000	5,000	5,100	0	-100
Transportation, Except Railroads	40,800	40,600	39,100	+200	+1,700
Communications & Public Utilities	28,400	28,400	28,400	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	275,500	271,800	272,800	+3,700	+2,700
Wholesale Trade	68,500	68,300	67,600	+200	+900
Retail Trade	207,000	203,500	205,200	+3,500	+1,800
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	73,500	73,400	73,900	+100	-400
Service, Except Domestic	291,300	287,400	281,500	+3,900	+9,800
Total Government	142,800	143,600	141,600	-800	+1,200
Total Federal Government	36,500	36,400	37,600	+100	-1,100
Total State & Local Government	106,300	107,200	104,000	-900	+2,300
Persons Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	100	0	-100

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2. Average Hours & Earnings of Production and Related Workers in Manufacturing

Area and State: St. Louis Metropolitan Area **Month and Year of Current Data: April, 1988**

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Manufacturing	$486.10	$481.15	$467.49	41.3	41.3	40.9	$11.77	$11.65	$11.43
Durable Goods	509.92	497.95	488.46	41.9	41.6	41.5	12.17	11.97	11.77
Lumber & Furniture	366.28	361.20	353.68	39.9	40.0	40.1	9.18	9.03	8.82
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	493.99	445.77	385.97	41.2	39.0	36.9	11.99	11.43	10.46
Primary Metal Industries	473.30	474.73	465.51	41.7	42.5	41.9	11.35	11.17	11.11
Fabricated Metal Products	465.89	445.81	466.52	42.2	40.9	42.8	11.04	10.90	10.90
Machinery, Exc. Electrical	503.18	489.77	454.52	44.1	43.0	39.8	11.41	11.39	11.42
Elect & Electronic Equip.	406.72	420.42	380.63	41.0	42.0	39.2	9.92	10.01	9.71
Transportation Equipment	648.66	627.26	629.97	43.1	42.7	43.9	15.05	14.69	14.35
Instruments & Misc. Mfg.	324.72	320.89	303.92	36.0	36.3	37.2	9.02	8.84	8.17
Nondurable Goods	441.80	450.02	430.52	40.2	40.8	39.9	10.99	11.03	10.79
Food & Kindred Products	510.87	507.58	499.38	41.5	41.2	41.0	12.31	12.32	12.18
Textiles & Apparel	225.98	241.52	209.29	35.2	37.1	32.1	6.42	6.51	6.52
Paper & Paper Products	456.62	459.24	472.42	43.2	43.0	45.6	10.57	10.68	10.36
Printing & Publishing	408.43	428.87	403.45	38.1	39.6	37.6	10.72	10.83	10.73
Chemicals & Allied Prods.	561.47	584.27	527.88	42.6	43.7	42.4	13.18	13.37	12.45
Petroleum & Coal Products	699.50	653.37	629.14	45.1	42.9	41.5	15.51	15.23	15.16
Leather & Leather Products	221.96	236.50	281.97	35.4	37.9	45.7	6.27	6.24	6.17
Other Nondurable Goods	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Springfield Labor Market Review

(Greene and Christian Counties)

April, 1988

Lloyd Banwart, Analyst

Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

The Springfield SMSA labor force expanded slightly from March to April. Approximately 4,400 persons were in April, down from 4,800 in March. The April rate of unemployment, estimated at 3.6 percent is the lowest monthly rate recorded since September, 1979 when 3.5 percent of the labor force was unemployed. The sharp drop from March to April was fostered by a strong economy and seasonal influences.

During April 1987, there were 5,800 unemployed and the rate of unemployment was calculated at 4.8 percent.

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment

Payrolled employment, estimated at 112,400, rose 900 from March. This jump reflects job increases in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing of 100 and 800 respectively.

Since April 1987, manufacturing employment is up by 1,700 and nonmanufacturing industries added 4,000 workers. During the past year, some of the notable changes include: construction, up 700; trade, up 1,100 and services, up 1,400.

Hours and Earnings

Average hourly earnings of manufacturing production and related workers increased from $8.49 in March to $8.53 in April. Average weekly earnings during April came to $333.52 and the number of hours worked averaged 39.1.

Employment and Unemployment Outlook

Payrolled employment is expected to show a slight rise in May. There will be fewer persons unemployed and the rate of unemployment will continue on the down trend that was established in February.

Table 1. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment
(Place of Work)

Area and State: Springfield, Missouri **Month and Year of Current: April, 1988**

Item	Number of Jobs			Net Change To Current Month From:	
	Current Mo.	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary, Employment (Exc. Domestics)	112,400	111,500	106,700	+900	+5,700
Manufacturing	21,200	21,100	19,500	+100	+1,700
Durable Goods	11,900	11,800	10,600	+100	+1,300
Lumber & Wood (Inc. Furn.)	1,200	1,200	1,100	0	+100
Other Durable Goods	10,700	10,600	9,500	+100	+1,200
Nondurable Goods	9,300	9,300	8,900	0	+400
Food Processing	3,800	3,700	3,800	+100	0
Printing & Publishing	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	-100
Other Nondurable Goods	3,800	3,900	3,300	-100	+500
Nonmanufacturing	91,200	90,400	87,200	+800	+4,000
Mining	100	100	100	0	0
Construction	5,400	5,200	4,700	+200	+700
Transportation & Utilities	7,200	7,200	6,800	0	400
Trade	31,300	30,900	30,200	+400	+1,100
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	4,700	4,700	4,800	0	-100
Services	28,400	28,200	27,000	+200	+1,400
Government	14,100	14,100	13,600	0	+500
Federal	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0
State and Local	12,300	12,300	11,800	0	+500
Persons Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0	0	0	0	0

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2. Gross Average Hours and Earnings for Production and Related Workers in Manufacturing Industries

Area and State: Springfield, Missouri **Month and Year of Current Data: April, 1988**

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Manufacturing	$333.52	$337.90	$332.21	39.1	39.8	38.9	$8.53	$8.49	$8.54
Durable Goods	328.28	330.77	326.37	39.6	39.9	38.9	8.29	8.29	8.39
Nondurable Goods	343.42	347.60	342.03	38.5	39.5	39.0	8.92	8.80	8.77
Food & Kindred Products	356.20	357.24	346.70	39.1	39.3	37.4	9.11	9.09	9.27
Other Nondurable Goods	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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